

THE RIO NEWS.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, AUGUST 11TH, 1896.

NUMBER 33

WILSON, SONS & CO.

(LIMITED)

2, RUA DE S. PEDRO
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Shaw, Savill & Albion Co., Ltd.
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Successors to W. R. CASSELS & Co.

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This establishment, the first in Brazil, for its elegance, comfort and situation amidst forests and enjoying the most magnificent scenery views of the mountains, town, the harbor and high seas, is the most suitable for families and gentlemen of distinction.

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Finest wines and liquors. Numerous shower and warm baths. Purest air, temperature bracing and invigorating. No health resort in the world is better.

For further information apply to FERDINAND MENTING, ASSEMBLÉA 75. Telephone 296.

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AU BRÉSIL

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Quickest dispatch given to Steamers and sailing vessels.

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Business Founded 1795.
Incorporated under laws of the State of New York, 1854.
Reorganized 1870.

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Execute orders for American manufactures, machinery of all kinds, rolling stock, railway supplies, lumber, petroleum, flour, provisions, &c. Make firm offers of cargoes or parts thereof. Purchase and sell on commission. Make liberal advances on consignments. Correspondence carefully attended to.

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GUARDIAN FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE CO., LIM'D.

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advise their numerous friends and patrons that they have opened a department for English Tailoring, having contracted for that purpose an experienced cutter from London

No. 38, RUA DO ROSARIO

CLUB DAS LARANGEIRAS.

The fourth dance of the season will be held on the 22nd August 1896. For invitations members will please apply to the Second Secretary Mr. H. L. Whentley or at Praça do Commercio No. 1.

Rio 1st August 1896.

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Large assortment of pictures and fancy looking glasses, engravings, photographs, aquarels, oil paintings, chromes, and copies of famous authors of the Munich gallery.

Receives every month silvopeluche of different colors for pictures, paper-panels for photographs, photo-engravings, painter's cloth, drawing and transparent papers; also painter's colors in tubes for gouache and aquarels, complete drawing outfit, etc., directly from Europe.

Sells at lowest prices

Fernando Gonçalves da Rocha & Co.

208, RUA DO CATTETE.

opposite Rua Pinheiro

Telephone No. 1269.

N.B.—Special deposit of the famous Veretio chromes.

WANTED.

A servant desiring to return to England to accompany a family from Rio de Janeiro to London sailing August 12th as first class cabin passengers and two respectively. Correspondence solicited giving references.

Address: Rev. Lumen Lee Kinsolving,

Caixa 47.

Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

PORTUGUESE LESSONS.

Antonio Vazquez will teach Portuguese and also make translations from English into Portuguese and vice versa. Office: 2nd Assembly, hours from 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

SITUATION WANTED

Young Englishman speaking and writing Portuguese seeks immediate occupation as clerk, has several years experience in Rio shipping and stevedoring business. Best of References.

Address N. D. J. this Office.

TO THE BRITISH COLONY.

As the British Government has recognized our rights over the Island of Trindade, Messrs. Quimra Irindes & Co. invite the English people to pay them a visit at No. 61, Rua da Quitanda, to see their very best goods for ladies, gentlemen and boys.

TURKISH AND EGYPTIAN.

Superior quality of Turkish and Egyptian cigarettes and tobacco sold at

Rua da Constituição, No. 14.

Missing Friends.

Information wanted at the British Consulate General, No. 7, Rua General Camara, as to the following: JOSEPH, R. A. resident in Rio for some three months past. Information desired as to his whereabouts.

Theodore John. Was last heard of about ten years ago, he then being in Santa Hospital. Information required as to his whereabouts.

APRIL, Walter. Was living some time since with Senhor Manoel Haret, of Fazenda da Bella Alliança, Vozem Alegre, state of Rio. Information required as to his whereabouts.

MERCED, Fortunato—Maltese: was lately here on board one of Her Majesty's ships belonging to the Squadron on the S. E. Coast of America. It is stated that he left his ship and was staying at Joseph's lodging-house.

OGLE, Frederick—English, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, England. Left home several years ago. His relations hear that he lately died of yellow fever. Can anyone furnish any information respecting him?

TULLY, or TULLY, Mathias—Native of Ireland. When last heard of he was engaged in mining in Brazil. Enquiries made about him in St. Louis, Mich. Will hear very good news on calling at the Consulate General.

Rio de Janeiro, March 29th, 1896

Official Directory

U.S. LEGATION.—Petropolis THOMAS L. THOMPSON Minister.

BRITISH LEGATION.—No. 1, Rua Visconde de Igarahy (opposite Custom House). Petropolis. EDMUND C. H. PHIPPS, Minister.

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 6, Rua Theophilo Ottoni. Wm. F. TOWNES, Consul General.

BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 1, Rua Visconde de Igarahy (opposite Custom House). WILLIAM C. WAGSTAFF, Consul General.

Church Directory

CHRIST CHURCH.—Rua Evaristo da Veiga. Morning service every Sunday at 11 a.m. Holy Communion after morning service on 1st Sunday of the month and at 4 p.m. on 2nd and 4th Sundays. Evening service during October according to notice. Baptisms after morning service or at other times by arrangement.

HENRY MOSLEY, M.A., British Chaplain.

18, Rua das Laranjeiras.

IGREJA EVANGELICA FLUMINENSE.—Rua Largo de S. Joaquin, No. 179.—Divine service in Portuguese on Sundays.—Power meeting at 10 a.m. 2nd Sunday at 11 a.m. Biblical class to study the Holy Scriptures, at 5 p.m. afternoon, Gospel preaching, at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays. Biblical study, and preaching, at 7 p.m.

JOAO M. G. DOS SANTOS, Pastor.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Largo do Cattedo. English service on 12th Sundays. Prayer meeting service Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Portuguese services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays: 7 p.m. Wednesdays.—E. A. TILLY and JOSE DA COSTA REIS, Pastors. Sunday School 11 a.m. at Fabrica Caraca, Sundays, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Rev. A. J. MELO.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—No. 14 Travessa da Barreira. Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays and at 7 p.m. Thursdays.

JAMES B. RODGERS, Pastor.

Residence: Rua Pinheiro Imperial 33.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—Rua de Santa Anna No. 25. Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. and every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

W. R. HAGBY, Pastor.

Residence: Ladeira do Senado No. 22.

IGREJA PRESBYTERIANA DO RIOCHUELO.—214 Rua D. Anna Nery, Estação do Riachuelo. Services Sundays 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Wednesdays 7 p.m. FRANKLIN H. NASCIMENTO, Pastor. Primary School in the church building.

Medical Directory

Dr. William Frederick Eisenlohr, German Physician. Office: 75, Rua General Camara. Consulting hours from 12 to 1:30 p.m.

Miscellaneous.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY'S AGENCY.—No. 117 Rua de S. José.—H. C. TUCKER, Agent.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY'S AGENCY.—Rua Sete de Setembro No. 31.—On sale, the Holy Scriptures in Portuguese, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and other languages.

JOAO M. G. DOS SANTOS, Agent.

BRITISH SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.—31 Rua Gonçalves Dias.—Open from noon to 6 p.m. For terms, apply to Librarian.

RIO SEAMEN'S MISSION.—Rest and Reading Room.—35, Rua da Saude, 1st floor: W. J. LUMBY, Missioner.

Gifts of books, magazines, papers, etc., also of left-off clothing, will be gratefully received at the Mission or at No. 23, Rua Theophilo Ottoni.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—No. 66, Rua da Assembleia, 1st floor. Rooms open from 6:30 to 10 o'clock p.m. Secretary's office hours: from noon to 1 o'clock p.m. Antonio V. de Andrade, President; Myron A. Clark, General Secretary; R. A. W. Sloan, Treasurer.

WEST COAST ITEMS.

—A Lima telegram of the 7th says the Peruvian congress is proposing to grant a subsidy of £75,500 for a telegraph line across the cordillera to Iquitos.

—Up in the 6th July, according to official data, the different nitrate works at Iquique had reduced the number of their employees from 18,337 to 13,152, leaving 5,226 workmen out of employment.

—The prognostication of Falls that the 6th would be characterized by earthquakes, cyclones and inundations, did not materialize, and the Chileans were not greatly alarmed either. It would seem that they are living fairly in faith.

—The government has refused, very properly, to accede to a petition of some of the people in Juan Fernandez Island to be allowed to engage in seal fishing, an act of congress of August 19, 1893, having prohibited the taking of seals for a period of four years.—Chilam Times.

—A correspondent furnishes us with the tabulated results of the working of the Peruvian Corporation's railways for the first five months of this year. On all but one line the gross receipts have been substantially in excess of those of 1895. The Southern has earned 568,200 soles against 412,500 soles, and the lake steamers 44,400 soles against 33,475 soles. On the Central line the net revenue has been from 286,000 soles to 449,000 soles, on the Trujillo from 102,225 soles to 119,005 soles, and on the Paya and Pura from 51,300 soles to 54,755 soles. The Palmas line has earned only 33,840 soles against 36,135 soles. The receipts for the first half of the corporation's fiscal year to the end of December also showed a notable increase on the 1894 results.—Financial News, July 15.

CONSUMPTION OF COFFEE.

The apparent consumption of coffee in the United States for the fiscal year just closed compares unfavorably with that of the previous twelve months. The official figures of warehouse deliveries are as follows:

months.	1895-96. bags.	1894-95. bags.
July	335,216	259,162
August	391,456	343,842
September	322,634	367,355
October	443,424	345,334
November	343,721	365,306
December	319,740	416,775
January	424,646	428,218
February	395,134	377,126
March	326,036	358,007
April	379,593	302,114
May	284,313	397,217
June	291,215	375,390

Total 4,339,128 4,395,946

Of the 4,339,128 bags delivered in 1895-96 there were 3,144,140 of Brazilian origin, while 1,196,988 bags were of milder strength.—Merchants' Review, New York.

THE OFFICE BOY'S WORK.

One of the most confusing reports that we have lately seen is to be found in the South American Journal of July 11th. It looks like a case of statistical d.t. It is a consular report from Bannu-Quilla, though it may be that the printer, or proof-reader, is the one at fault in reproducing the following coffee returns:

"Coffee is the chief article of export through this port. During the year 1895 there was dispatched the following number of tons of 1,000 kilos each, in all 11,215,832 tons: the which, calculated in value at 18 c. American gold per £1, gives more or less a value of £857,300 sterling. Of these shipments were embarked:

	Tons of 1,000 kilos.
In direct British vessels	1,241,803
In indirect British vessels	6,415,439
In foreign vessels	3,557,790

Total 11,215,832

Coffee is the product principally of the gold mines in Antioquia and Tolima, and the registered embarkations amount to the value of £264,028."

In the first place eleven millions tons of coffee represent over one hundred and seventy-seven millions of bags, or 17 times the Brazilian crop. For such a crop £857,300 seems awfully small. Then, too, we are puzzled to know how 18 cents American gold can equal "£1," and how coffee happens to be the principal product of the "gold mines" of Antioquia and Tolima.

The statistical bulletin of the French ministry of agriculture, dealing with the consumption of household in Paris last year, gives the number of horses killed for consumption as 101 at 23,186, this being exclusive of forty-three mules and 383 donkeys. The total weight of meat sold was 5,130 tons, and this was sold at 186 shops or stalls, which are not allowed to sell any other kind of meat. The maximum price ranged from 18 cents a pound for the fillet to 4 cents a pound for the necks and lower ribs. The report adds that not more than a third of the meat is sold at the stalls, the remainder going to make sausages.

The new Italian small-bore rifle, which has lately been issued to the men of General Hensch's division, is said to be the best weapon hitherto known. Its bore is 0.25 inch. The magazine holds six cartridges, and up to twenty-four shots can be fired per minute. The trajectory is so flat that up to 550 yards there is no need to use the folding sight, which is graduated for distances up to 2,200 yards. The muzzle velocity is 2,562 feet. The penetration is such as to render ordinary shelters useless, as at 440 yards the bullet will pass right through a brick wall over three feet thick, and if several bullets hit the wall close to each other they will make a very little breach. The cartridge has not the usual danger in the bottom, but instead of this an annular groove which is clutched by the extractor. The bullet consists of a core of lead hardened with antimony, and an envelope of German silver.

Banks.**LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED.**

Capital..... £ 1,500,000
 Capital paid up..... " 750,000
 Reserve fund..... " 500,000

HEAD OFFICE: LONDON.

BRANCH OFFICE IN RIO DE JANEIRO
 10, Rua da Alfandega

Draws on Head Office and the following Branches
 and Agencies:

LISBON, OPORTO, PARÁ,
 PERNAMBUCO, BAHIA, SANTOS, SÃO PAULO
 CAMPINAS, RIO GRANDE DO SUL,
 PILOTAS, PORTO ALEGRE, MONTEVIDEO,
 BUENOS AYRES AND NEW YORK.

Also on:

Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co., LONDON.

Messrs. Mallet Frères & Co., PARIS.

Messrs. Schröder & Co., J. H. Schröder & Co.,
 Hamb.

Messrs. Joh. Berenberg, Gossler & Co. HAMBURG.

Messrs. Granet Brown & Co. GENOA.

BRASILIANISCHE BANK FÜR DEUTSCHLAND.

Established in Hamburg on 16th December
 1887 by the "Direction der Direktion Gesellschaft"
 in Berlin and the "Norddeutsche Bank in
 Hamburg," Hamburg.

Capital. . . 10,000,000 Marks.

BRANCH OFFICE IN RIO DE JANEIRO.

(Caixa 108.)

Branch-offices in São Paulo and Santos

(Caixa 520.)

(Caixa 185.)

Draws on:

Germany..... { Direction der Disconto }
 Gesellschaft, Berlin, and corre-
 pondents.
 M. A. von Rothschild
 Söhne, Frankfurt a. M.
 England..... { N. M. Rothschild & Sons, London,
 Manchester and Liverpool District
 Banking Company, Limited, London,
 Union Bank of London, Limited, London
 Wm. Brandt & Sons & Co., London.
 France..... { Crédit Lyonnais, Paris and branches.
 Comptoir National d'Escompte de
 Paris, Paris.
 Heine & Co., Paris.
 Lazard Frères & Co., Paris.
 André Neufville & Co., Paris.
 Portugal..... { Banco Lisbon & Açores and corre-
 pondents.
 and any other countries.
 Opens accounts current.
 Pays interest on deposits for a certain time.
 Executes orders for purchases and sales of stocks, shares,
 etc., and transacts every description of banking business.

Boettger-Petersen,
 Directors.

THE LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK, LIMITED.

LONDON: Princes Street, E. C.

PARIS: 16, Rue Halévy.

Rio de Janeiro:

No. 20, Rua da Alfandega.

Authorized by Decree No. 59, of 17th October, 1891.

Subscribed capital. £1,500,000
 Realized do " 900,000
 Reserve fund " 950,000

BRANCHES:

Paris, 16, rue Halévy, Pernambuco, Pará, Boqueiros
 Aires, Montevideo, Rosario and Paysandú.

DRAWN ON:

London and County Banking Co., Ltd.—LONDON.
 Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas.—PARIS.
 Banco de Portugal and agencies.—PORTUGAL.
 And on all the chief cities of Europe.

Also on:

Brown Brothers & Co.—NEW YORK.
 First National Bank of Chicago.—CHICAGO.

THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: 2 A, MOORCATE ST. London E. C.

Capital..... £ 1,000,000
 Idem paid up..... " 800,000
 Reserve fund..... " 800,000

Office in Rio de Janeiro:

31 A, Rua 1° de Março

Branches at:

S. PAULO, SANTOS, BAHIA, PARÁ, MONTEVIDEO
 BUENOS AIRES AND ROSARIO

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NASSAU'S PHOSPHORESCENT LAKE.

Having in remembrance old Sampson Stamp, of Key West, the discoverer of the sea-gardens at Nassau, we took a pilot and sailboat the following morning and sailed some four miles up the channel. There we embarked in a rowboat with a glass bottom, made by inserting therein plates of thick glass, through which the bottom of the sea spread out before us like dry land. A strange feeling crept over me and in imagination I fancied myself with Jules Verne on the voyage of "Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea." We could see all the little fishes, minnows one inch long and larger kinds one foot, two feet and three feet in length, some white and black and blue, besides many angel-fish, all yellow like a canary, with bright blue fins and tail, swam by beneath us. As the ripe wheat fields in summer sway to the breeze, so there in the submarine currents waved great bunches of fan-leaf coral, purple, yellow and white. The water was clear as air, and, pointing to some specially beautiful specimens of rock and fans, our little darkey dived over, and, like the fish, we could see him swimming down until at last, clutching the growth with two hands and feet firmly braced against the coral, he gave a tug and away he came to the top, fan in hand. Indeed, God hath wrought marvelous things in this world of His, but nothing of greater bewitching fancy than the sea-gardens of Nassau.

When night came, and before the moon was up, a drive of two miles back on New Providence island brought us to a most interesting work of nature. A lake some 1,000 feet long and 300 feet wide lay quiet and black as any other sheet of water at night might do. But once in a rowboat and shoved off from shore, what a mighty change was wrought! Two small out-swimmers, the hue of the surrounding darkness, accompanied our boat of fire, for

such it seemed. Like two human torches our darkeys swam by our side as in a cloud of phosphorescent fire. At the slightest disturbance the whole surrounding water lit up like molten silver. Each boy's toes and fingers were as though the sun shone on them, and fish darted through the quiet water like sky-rockets, leaving a glittering trail behind. The light was so vivid I could see the time by my watch, and when a wave was sent upward with the oar the falling drops were like blue-faint pearls. The movements of our boat made enough light to plainly show the bottom, for the water is from the ocean and as clear as all that which nature makes to flow about those lovely Bahamas. Enticed by the water's warmth and the hot night, my friend and I went in swimming, but only for a few moments. From this swim comes a story hard to believe, but as true as gospel. That night, as was my custom before turning in, I went to the bath-room, which I could easily darken, to change some photo plates in my holders. When about to pull the slides I noticed the phosphorescence, which I had brought from the lake, shining from my bare feet and giving so much white light I had to cover them with a towel before I dared expose the plates to what a moment before had been intense darkness. — *Forest and Stream.*

TRADE AND COMMERCE OF RIO DE JANEIRO.*

It is generally admitted that the past year, 1895, was a most unprofitable one for those engaged in nearly all branches of commerce with Brazil. This was due to many reasons, but to explain the causes which have led up to the present unsatisfactory state of trade it is necessary to go back a few years.

Upon the abolition of slavery in 1888, although some of the fazendeiros (landed proprietors) suffered greatly thereby, the country at large reaped indisputable advantages. Improvement soon showed itself on all sides; new enterprises of every description were undertaken; European money markets opened their doors to Brazil, and capital rapidly flowed in. Confidence in the resources of the country soon caused the exchange—the true barometer of a nation's financial prosperity—to rise from 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per milreis, and in 1889 the Brazilian government succeeded in effecting a loan of 11,250,000 l. in England, at 4 per cent. in gold, the rate of emission being at 90. This enabled the national banks of Rio to issue notes exchangeable for gold, with the result that the value of the 1 l. sterling rose to 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., or above par. Gold became the circulating medium, but the public were adverse to accepting coin, preferring paper money, so that it was found necessary to decree the lawful value of the 1 l. sterling to be 38890 reis.

The number of banks speedily increased; new industrial establishments were founded, and companies of every sort formed. The railway system was developed, and the plantations that had been neglected after the abolition of slavery, and had fallen in value, were newly cultivated; and, lastly, immigration was favoured and aided by the state. In brief, a new era had been inaugurated, and increased activity was everywhere apparent. Unfortunately speculation ran rife, and in the months of September and October the liquidations on the exchange were very heavy, but would have been settled satisfactorily had the country been left time and tranquillity to develop its resources. On November 15, 1889, however, came the overthrow of the empire, and with it the financial difficulties, which have ever since steadily increased. The holders of notes payable in gold showed the first sign of the receding wave of prosperity by presenting them in large quantities for payment. The gold, owing to want of confidence, and the general uneasiness felt in all circles, soon disappeared from circulation, thereby causing a decline in the exchange.

On January 19, 1890, the minister of finance introduced his bank laws authorising the establishment of banks with the right of issuing paper currency against government bonds and gold to double and treble their value; these banks, which had only to print new notes against deposits made at the treasury, spring up on all sides. This gave a fresh impulse to speculation.

* From the "Report for the year 1895, on the Trade and Navigation of Rio de Janeiro," by Wm. H. C. Wagsstaff, H. B. M. Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro.

The bank shares and those of other associations rose rapidly in value; new enterprises were undertaken, financial, industrial, agricultural, and even scientific, the shares of which were hardly signed when they were sold at a premium, and large fortunes were realised.

As a natural result the import trade assumed wider proportions and prospered in spite of the fluctuating exchange, as everybody was making money easily.

The directors of the banks of issue were also carried away by the current of speculation and made advances on the new shares, and thus encouraged the formation of habitable companies; to establish which, machinery and raw materials were imported and paid for in gold. All this gradually told upon the exchange.

The political disturbances in the country also contributed to its decline, and notwithstanding the palliative measures taken by the government in issuing gold deposited by the banks at the treasury, the exchange continued to fall. Fresh uneasiness set in, which caused some companies to attempt to realise their imaginary profits, but they were unsuccessful, liquidations could not be effected.

At this juncture money became scarcer; the first necessities of life dearer; it was the same with house rent, and the middle classes had adopted, during the monetary inflation, a style of living which was difficult to abandon. The government endeavoured to remedy matters by introducing different systems, but before one was sufficiently tried, another was begun.

Such was the state of things in the country when the revolution broke out at Rio Grande do Sul, and later, on September 6, 1893, the naval revolt took place at Rio, seriously interrupting the commerce of this and other ports until the following March.

The civil war entailed a large expenditure of life and money. All this told on the banking establishments; nothing remained but a mass of paper held by the national banks which were considerably reduced in number.

Illustrative of the mischievous result of the speculative fever that had prevailed so long, the machinery, appurtenances, and other requisites imported for several undertakings were found all over the country, in many instances in a rusty damaged condition and the factories themselves partly in ruins.

In a country devoid of roads of any sort and solely dependent upon the limited railways for the transport of merchandise, the complete disorganisation of the Central and Leopoldina lines, and their inefficient rolling-stock continues to call forth energetic protests against the administrations. The delay in the goods traffic is incredible, entailing enormous losses to traders who entertain little hope of improvement in business until a radical change takes place in the working of the railways. It is therefore easy to understand to what extent legitimate commerce suffered, and still suffers, and under what auspices the year 1895 was ushered in. Great things were expected from the new President of the republic, but notwithstanding his being animated with the best intentions and most honest sentiments, he was unable, owing to the obstacles placed in his way, to secure success for the measures which he and his ministers introduced. The national congress, formed for the most part of large landed proprietors, lawyers, and journalists, representing states whose interests are often conflicting, were more interested in party politics than in the general welfare of the republic.

To replenish the state coffers the government negotiated two loans in London, viz. one in January, 1895, for 2,000,000 l., and the other in July for 6,000,000 l., the latter being destined to the redemption of the aforesaid loan of 2,000,000 l., and the deposit of funds in London to meet the country's external obligations, and thus free the market from the influence of the government as buyers of exchange, which, as a matter of fact, was partly accomplished, the value of the milreis rising to 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. An internal loan for 100,000,000 milreis was also launched with satisfactory results.

Mention must also be made of the protracted negotiation with the insurgents at Rio Grande. Unhappily the terms of their pacification, in August last, did not meet with the entire approval of Congress.

To the other difficulties under which this country was labouring must be added the

international questions with England respecting the island of Trinidad, and with France respecting Annapolis, both of which affected the exchange and caused no small embarrassment in framing the budget for the coming year.

The budget law was hastily compiled and voted only on December 30 last. To cover the deficit the government resorted to a further increase of the customs duties on all goods imported from January 1, 1896, the term for clearing same was ultimately extended to March 31. The result of this measure is that many articles are virtually prohibited with the view of favouring national industry.

As a bright spot in a somewhat depressing picture, it may be mentioned that the coffee crop now coming to maturity is most promising, being estimated at over 8,000,000 sacks; and provided an improvement takes place in the goods traffic by rail with the interior, no doubt a revival of trade will follow.

EXPORTS.

The principal staple of commerce, in fact the only important article of export from Rio de Janeiro, is coffee, the energies of the country being mostly devoted to its culture, to the detriment of nearly all the other requirements of daily existence. Respecting other merchandise it has been impossible to obtain any information.

In Annex A it will be observed that the quantity of coffee exported from this port last year was 2,763,720 bags against 2,662,520 bags in 1894, or an increase of 101,200 bags.

The total quantity of coffee shipped from all ports in Brazil is given in Annex B. Santos leads with 3,574,484 bags, Rio de Janeiro follows, then comes Victoria with 307,438, Bahia with 264,775, and Ceará with 20,202; the gross total being 6,930,619 bags.

The shipments of coffee from Rio last year were kept somewhat in abeyance up to the end of May, pending the adjustment, on the part of the producing states, of a convenient system regulating the payment of export duties. There was an exceptional movement in June when prices declined considerably, but the result of the year appears to have been satisfactory to planters and intermediaries.

On December 31 the stock in Rio and Santos consisted of about 1,800,000 bags, and it was estimated that the coming crops would yield 8,500,000 to 9,000,000 bags.

An experiment was tried during the year by some exporters to establish direct business between themselves and planters in the interior of the state of Rio de Janeiro, and from August to December 56,839 bags, brought under these conditions, reached this port in transit for New York.

The established system requires that the coffee, before delivery to the exporters, should pass through the hands of the planter's commission agent, the sacker, and the exporter's broker, and it is evident that the new departure, if generally adopted, would render unnecessary the employment of such middlemen. The innovation, therefore, met with opposition from these interested classes, which took the form of charging increased rates of railway freight for transport of such coffee from places of production to ports of shipment for Rio de Janeiro. This treatment on the part of the railway companies has been protested against, but apparently without effect.

In March the representatives of commission houses issued their final estimate of the crop 1895-96, which they placed at 1,750,000 bags.

The 1894-95 crop had been estimated at 3,000,000 bags, and the entries up to June 30, 1895, had amounted to 2,065,400 bags.

Adopting these estimates, therefore, the year from July, 1895, to June, 1896, began with a supply of about 2,200,000 bags, deducting the entries, 1,600,000 bags, there remained 600,000 bags to be added to the estimate crop of 1,750,000, viz., 3,350,000 bags, making a total supply for the season 1895-96 of 4,350,000 bags.

The large entries during the second half of the year engendered doubts as to the estimate of the actual crop, but commission houses express their confidence in its correctness, and it is probable that the increase of arrivals during December may be explained by the conviction of the planters not only that the next crop will be abundant, but also that it will be in condition for forwarding to shipping ports earlier than usual.

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From the Buenos Aires Herald, July 26.

ARGENTINE PRISONS.

We referred yesterday to the case of a person who was detained for 48 hours in a cell at the central department of police, without chair or bed or anything to protect him from the cold. He was not a criminal, and, in fact, he had been arrested through a mistake of the judge, who ought to be made to pay damages for false imprisonment. Of course, if a mere witness is treated in the barbarous manner described, we may well suppose that persons charged with crime have even less consideration shown to them, and such is the fact. An untried prisoner, Manuel Corsal, died in the penitentiary on Monday from inflammation of the lungs, which is not surprising, for the defender of the poor, Dr. Giral, in a note to the court of appeal in criminal cases, says that the prisoners charged with crime, but untried, whose number always exceeds 200, occupy a place in the penitentiary where they have to lie on the ground, without any covering whatever, and they huddle together for the sake of warmth, being thus exposed to contract contagious or infectious diseases or to die of cold.

This is what happened to the unfortunate Corsal, whom death has relieved from his sufferings, which would otherwise have certainly continued for months, and perhaps for years, while Argentine justice dragged his slow length along. Yet the judges of the court of appeal visit the prisons periodically, and it was only about a fortnight ago that they visited the penitentiary and other prisons and reported, in effect, that everything in them was as right as right could be, that none of the prisoners had made any complaint, but all were quite comfortable and happy, and grateful for the admirable rapidity with which their respective prosecutions were being conducted.

The truth is that the lawyers, being trained in a bad system, become blind to its defects and hardened against the needless suffering which it causes. An inspection of gaols by lawyers is therefore wholly ineffective to them, there is nothing surprising in the fact that prisoners remain untried for years, and as for their treatment, it is that which has always prevailed and therefore it must be right. Their sympathies are reserved for great criminals after conviction—and the more horrible the crime the greater the sympathy—so that when a Treublé is convicted of a murder, the circumstances of which have horrified the whole civilized world, the greatest judicial authority in the republic interposes to save the atrocious miscreant from his doom, and the press l.uds the judge for his sickly sentimentality instead of condemning him for using his great influence to impress on would-be criminals the truth of the maxim, already too widely known, that "killing is no murder" in Argentina.

Why, instead of exerting himself to save a life justly forfeited, does not the judge devote himself to the amelioration of the unhappy lot of the 200 untried prisoners who are always in the penitentiary? This is a humanitarian work, which would not prejudice the public interests by encouraging crime as does foolish leniency to murderers, but, of course, glory cannot be gained by accomplishing an administrative reform of this kind so cheaply as by an appeal for mercy to the president of a foreign republic.

Prison reform is a practical measure which the radical party should take up, and, when the party has succeeded in getting unconvicted prisoners treated as human beings and not as beasts, we will suggest other ways in which it may utilize its surplus energies and demonstrate to the public the reason for its existence.

AN UNEXPLORED INDUSTRY.

Some twelve or fifteen years ago an old friend of ours, whose scientific researches were then slightly tinged with business speculations, sent us a manuscript containing a somewhat hasty investigation of the palm spines of Brazil as an object of industrial exploration. He was evidently afraid that someone would get ahead of him in this new and unexplored field, and did not wait therefore to carry his studies to a practical conclusion. For some forgotten reason, perhaps we did not realize the true value of his investigations as he expected us to do, we made no use of the manuscript, and it was laid aside and soon became buried under the accumulations of dust and old papers which so often turn an editor's

joyous morning smile into a wail of unsolvable perplexity. In turning out some of these old papers a few days since the palm-spine manuscript, time-stained but still legible and hopeful, was once more brought to our attention, and although we are now as far from understanding the gigantic possibilities which it presents as when it was first written, we have resolved to lay it before our readers. It must be remembered that it was written in the days of the easy-going empire, when enterprise made haste slowly and occasionally stopped altogether like an old man taking a pinch of snuff. We have thought it best, however, not to change its style to suit modern tastes, and to leave our friend with his "provinces" and other old-fashioned ideas. It should be said, also, that Sr. Barbosa Rodrigues was then deep in his studies of palms, and it may be that our scientific friend was not wholly inclined to accept all the reported new species which that energetic botanist had announced. However that may have been, the industrial possibilities of the palm spines seem to have roused his enthusiasm to an almost uncontrollable pitch, and we now have great pleasure in placing them before the patriotic enthusiasts of the present day. The article is as follows:

SPINE-PRODUCING PALMS.

The English naturalist, Mr. Alfred Russel Wallace, wrote in 1853, and there has been no special work on palms since then until we come to Sr. Barbosa Rodrigues. Mr. Wallace gives less than 600 as the whole number of palms known and the great botanist Dr. Von Martius thinks the number existing on the earth may be from 1,000 to 1,200. At that time (1853) then were only 275 different kinds of palms in America, and of these 42 kinds were natives of the islands, while only 234 grew on the continent.

It has been said, however, that Barbosa Rodrigues has discovered (or invented) 200 new species in the province of Pará alone! And it is hardly to be supposed that he has exhausted either the resources of that province or his own. But let that number stand. The province of Amazonas is much larger than that of Pará and should therefore, if properly worked up by Barbosa Rodrigues give at least 300 more new species, while that of Maranhão should give about 150. We mention these three provinces especially and first because they lie in the Amazon valley and in palms form the richest part of America. Here we have 650 new species from the Amazon region alone and at once, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that the valleys of the São Francisco and of the Paraguay will give as many more; while all the rest of Brazil will give half that number. This gives the following magnificent result:

Amazon region.....	650
S. Francisco and Paraguay.....	650
Rest of Brazil.....	325

1,625 new species!

In the face of such overwhelming scientific facts it is difficult for an enthusiast to keep cool. Brazil alone produces, or can be shown to produce, if properly manipulated, more new species of palms than what the great Dr. Martius supposed the whole world to contain!

There are still more favorable features in this pleasing prospect. Mr. Barbosa Rodrigues, like the true scientist when he was doing this splendid work, did not spread his energies over the whole vegetable kingdom. He didn't even include the whole family of palms. He, like every great scientific man, confined himself to one point—to one genus—the genus *Bactris*, and though we can not state it as a fact that all these 200 new species in the province of Pará belong to that genus, it is not unreasonable to suppose that they do. Moreover, our figures tend to underestimate, rather than overestimate the whole number to be found in the country. Now the genus *Bactris* is a spiny genus, nearly every species producing spines that may be utilized. Unfortunately the trunks are neither very large, nor very high, but the immense number of individuals will make up for this defect. Indeed we are not sure that this should be considered a defect. Smaller trees are more easily cut down, and more easily handled.

It may be well to mention that palms of this genus are generally known on the Amazon as the *marajá*. The fruit is edible and of a very pleasant sub-acid flavor not found in any other palm fruit. This is another favorable feature in the palm works, for the laborers can live on the fruits while they are engaged in collecting the spines.

When once the great advantage and importance of this enterprise impress themselves in the government, undoubtedly Mr. Barbosa Rodrigues will be commissioned to finish his game back on the genus *Bactris*. Thus done we would advise the working up of the genus *Astrocaryum*, Meyer. From the spine point of view this genus is even more important than the *Bactris*, the spines being larger and in greater number, the tree bigger and taller.

At present only 16 species of this palm are known, of which the principal ones are known only as the *auriculata*, *mumbata*, *tucuma*, *tucuma*, *january*, *maritima*, *li* and *tachinensis*. The spines on some of these palms reach the almost incredible length of 46 centimetres, and would doubtless produce the higher grades of spines.

It is very easy to determine from the facts we already have how many new species Barbosa Rodrigues can discover of the genus *Astrocaryum*. As the former number of species of genus *Bactris* is to number discoverable, so is the former number of genus *Astrocaryum* to species to be discovered. In other words, algebraically speaking, $10:1625::16:1x$, which gives $x=347$ and a little over, the discoverable number of *Astrocaryums*.

Nor are we to stop here. There are still other genera rich in spines, among which we need only mention *Acrocomia*, 8 species known; and *Guilfordia*, 3 species known. By the same process of reasoning as employed above to determine the number of *Astrocaryums* we find that there must be 282 new *Acrocomias*, and 103 *Guilfordias*. Of only these four genera we have the unprecedented number of 2,359 new species of prickly palms in Brazil.

We can not dwell on the vast field opened here to science. No mention is made of palms which do not produce spines. We leave those speculations to those who are interested in science for science's own sake. We only speak as business men, and of this industry as a paying one from a financial standpoint.

With these data, let us now see how many spines can be had from this wealth-producing but long neglected tree. The palms mentioned grow to different heights, have trunks of various sizes, and are unevenly distributed over the empire. The *Bactris* are the lowest palms mentioned, excepting some of the *Astrocaryums* which are trunkless. The *Bactris* reach 12 metres in height in some instances, though they will probably not average more than 5 or 6. The *Astrocaryum muricatum*, Mart., is from 6 to 20 metres in height, averaging, say 12; the species *gymnanthum*, Mart., reaches 5 metres; species *rugosa*, Mart., reaches 25 metres; species *tucuma*, Mart., about the same; species *january*, Mart., reaches 14 metres; species *aculeatum*, Meyer, reaches 7 metres, while *auriculata*, Mart., and *li*, Wallace, are trunkless. Genus *Acrocomia* sometimes reaches 15 metres, and *Guilfordia* is about the same.

The size of the trunks of these palms vary quite as much as the altitudes, and in order to find the spine-producing area represented by the whole country we must make some sort of an approximation to the superficial area of these palms.

We have given the number of new species of palms discovered and to be discovered. Before doing any further let us see how many of these spine-producing palms we have in Brazil *in all*. We find that there are 2,359 new species. To this number add those already known and let it be borne in mind that we only speak of four genera; and we have 2,359, plus 46 of genus *Bactris*, plus 3 of genus *Guilfordia*, plus 8 of *Acrocomia*, plus 16 of *Astrocaryum*, making in all 2,432 species. Of this number the 1,671 species of *Bactris* averaging 5 metres high with a circumference of 20 centimetres give a superficial area of one metre for every single individual. Of this area less than one half produces spines, but by including the fine ones grown upon the petioles we may safely say that each individual *Bactris* has, on the average, a spine-producing surface of one half a square metre, which will yield at the very least three and a half spines to the square centimetre, or 17,500 spines to the tree. This is a very large average indeed, for there are individuals which will yield over three times that number. Now let us see how many the higher grades of palms will yield. As we have said, it should have said, the *Astrocaryums*, leaving out the species *auriculata* and *li*, which are trunkless, average about 14 metres in height, and 35

centimetres in circumference, or a superficial area of 7.70 square metres which is nearly all spine-producing, the small deficiency being made up by the large number of the best grades of the petioles. Genus *Acrocomia* and *Guilfordia* averaging 14 metres in height and 60 centimetres in circumference give as a superficial area of 9.24 square metres, of which two-thirds, or 6.16 square metres are spine-producing. To determine the spine wealth of the whole empire we have now only to find the average number of these palms to the square acre. This number varies greatly with the locality. The greatest riches lie along the banks of the Amazon from Tabatinga to Maranhão and to Cayenne and is most remarkable in what is known as the *varzea* region.

But it must not be imagined for an instant that all this spine wealth is confined to the *varzea* or indeed to the northern part of the empire. Genus *Bactris*, *Astrocaryum* and *Acrocomia* are common from the Oropaeu to the confines of Mato Grosso on moist soils, while over every campo may be seen the beautiful yellow fruit and the leathery green fronds (the national colors) of the *tucuma*. But we wander. In the *varzea* region of the Amazon there are 986 *Astrocaryums* and 528 *Bactris* to the square acre, or 1514 individuals of known species!

But referring back we find that the eminent national botanist will increase this number greatly. Forty-six species of *Bactris* were known, and this number he increased, or will increase to 1625, whence the proportion: as 46 is to 1625, so is 1514 to x , which gives us 2,460,250 as the value of x , which represents the number of palms to the square acre after the discoveries are completed. Of this number 1,602,250 will be *Astrocaryums* and the remaining 858,000 *Bactris*. Now we have already shown the spine-producing area of the *Astrocaryum* to average 7.70 square metres, whence we have 1,602,250 individual *Astrocaryums* to the square acre, multiplied by 7.70 square metres equal to 12,337,325 square metres. For the genus *Bactris* we have one half a square metre, the spine area of this genus, by 858,000 individuals which gives 429,000 square metres. Here alone, without mentioning the *Acrocomia* and the large number of the genus *Dioscorea* or *Jacintum* palms, we have a spine-producing surface of 12,766,325 square metres to the acre, or 3,154 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres of spine-producing area to the acre of land.

Is it necessary to say more? The spine-producing *varzea* region of the Amazon is supposed to be about 650,000,000 square acres, not including the area covered by water, which will give there a spine area of 20,504,250,000,000 acres. All this enormous surface, producing three spines to the square centimetre or 30,000 to the square metre, will give 12,766,325 \times 30,000 = 382,989,750,000 the number of spines to the acre of *varzea* land, and therefore we have the yield of only the low ground along the Amazon as 248,943,337,500,000,000,000 spines—all of the first grades. When we leave those bottom lands the number of palms is not so large, and the average of spine surface over the whole of Brazil will probably not be more than one half of that given for the bottom lands of the rich Amazon region. Even were it less the yield throughout the empire would be something almost incredible. For the sake of approximating to the truth and reducing the supposition to an undoubted fact let us place the spine area of the remainder of Brazil at two-fifths of that of the Amazon region. *Varzea* land yields 382,989,750,000 to the acre; two-fifths of this is equal to 153,195,900,000 the average yield per acre of land outside of the *varzea* region. The area of this kind of land in all Brazil is reckoned at 600,000,000 acres after making an allowance of about one half the geographical area for water, barren districts and lands under cultivation. This is the geographical spine-producing area. In reality it is much more from the fact that the mountainous provinces of Minas Geraes, Rio de Janeiro, Espírito Santo and parts of São Paulo are not spread out flat, but are thrown into mountains, hills, and knobs so that the surface is very nearly or quite doubled. But we pass this important fact by, just as we have failed to include in our calculations some genera of palms, and one especially—the *Dioscoreas*, commonly known as *jaitina* or *urumbimba*. Several of these unmentioned palms have special features of their own which would undoubtedly enhance their market value were they

properly introduced, the spines of the *jaitina* for example are hooked as are also those of some of the *jaitinas*.

In a country which stands in the front ranks of inventive progress, it can hardly be reasonably supposed that these last mentioned spines will long remain unutilized. (Fishhooks?) *Verbum sat*.

Adopting the same calculations as above, we have a geographical spine-producing area of 600,000,000 outside of the Amazon basin, which will give an actual spine-bearing area of 18,927,000,000,000 acres. The total production of this area would therefore be 229,793,850,000,000,000,000 spines, which would give an aggregate spine production of 478,737,187,500,000,000,000 for the whole empire. This, in our opinion, is a very moderate estimate even for the genera named, and it would undoubtedly be greatly increased by those not so well known.

Another great industry yet to spring from the genus *Bactris* is that of the manufacture of hair brushes from the old spathe or fruit case. When one turns his attention to these things it is wonderful to contemplate the backwardness of mankind in these matters. It is a well known fact that hair proper for the manufacture of hair brushes is becoming scarcer and scarcer. Efforts have been made to manufacture wire brushes, but with doubtful success. Nature now comes to our relief and only awaits some one with sufficient energy and capital to yield up her richest treasures.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS

—The Gil zanzela artists returned from Rio Janeiro in the *Oryza*, justly glad to get away from the life of the students with whole skins. We do not know that we have ever heard of anything more childish than the behavior of the students in this matter, and it is deplorable to both police and authorities that they are unable to keep the students in order but practically leave them masters of the town. A sound whipping would do a lot of them good and teach them moderation and common sense, both of which they lack. —*Montevideo Times*.

—Since the time that the young Princes of England came to this port on their trip round the world in one of our cruisers, there has not been such a stir as has been made over the young Prince of Savoy in his trip on board the first-class cruiser *Cristóbal Colombo*. A right royal reception has been accorded to him here. The man-of-war leaves today under orders for Montevideo where a round of festivities will again be indulged in. After visiting that city the vessel will proceed to Rio, Pernambuco, Havana, various ports on the Mexican gulf, New York and other American cities, and from thence back to Venice, where the vessel is due towards the end of November. —*Times*, Buenos Aires, July 31.

—Advices from San Francisco state that the progressive estancieros Don Luis Leizaola Lengua intends to acquire some 100 or 150 hectares of land near "Las Cañas," and also near the Central railway station, with the object of devoting it to rice cultivation on a large scale. The land is considered appropriate for the purpose, and he is prepared to establish there 21 Pamonese families used to the industry. Experiments in rice culture have already given a most promising result, and some rice raised at Las Cañas received a gold medal at the national exhibition last year. It is hoped to be able to place it on the market at a lower price than the imported article, and if this be verified another important addition will have been made to the resources of the republic. —*Montevideo Times*, July 26.

—Mr. Alexander McDonald, whose interesting letters on the historic part of the *loros-estancos*, published in these columns, have been read with so much interest, was welcomed to-day on his arrival from Paraguay. He reports New Australia breaking up fast, the families drifting steadily out and "him" only wanting to liquidate a costly experiment at fitting up the impossible Utopia. Soon there will be nothing left but the name, and for many a bitter memory. Some of the families have gone back to Australia and some "treckled" for South Africa, whether those that remain will follow. The one relieving feature of this unfortunate experiment at the implantation of communistic principles was the effort made by the Paraguayan government to keep the colony going, but the foundation was rotten, the mainspring would not turn, the example remains, and it should prove fruitful as it has been severe. —*B. A. Standard*.

—The following is a true story. This we know is usually the preamble to a worse than usual *Amnis* like concoction, but in the present instance it is absolutely veracious; and it happened not very far from the Argentine republic. It was a steamer that was lying, as steamers have a habit of doing, in some 20 feet of water, when by some mischance a fire broke out on board in the coal bunker. The firemen, who in that country go by the name of "bomberos," were at once called up by telephone and informed of the outbreak. There was no sign of their coming for some time after the alarm; and presently the ting-ting of the telephone bell was answered by the clerk who had called the station. The person speaking was the chief of the fire department, who acknowledged the call and wished to know as the *bomberos* were all ready to start for the fire, "whether it would be necessary for them to bring any water or was there plenty where the ship was lying." This is a fact, and it has a certain humorous side to those who look for it. —*Review*, Buenos Aires.

—During the six months ending June 30, there were 253 ocean-going steamship arrivals, and 136 sailing arrivals at Rosario, Argentina, of which only 17 sailing vessels carried the American flag. The exports included 146,905 dry bales, 42,920 salable hides, 13,223 bales of wool, 280 bales hair, 339 bales sheepskins, 875 bales goat-skins, 3,203 tons of bones and 434 tons of bone ash, 104,36 horns, 205,793 tons of wheat, 62,374 tons of linseed, 43,387 tons of maize, 4,991 tons of flour, 279,340 bales of hay, etc. Of the above, 94,546 dry bales, 10,742 bales wool, 208 bales hair, 16 bales sheepskins, 519 bales goat-skins, 1,031 tons bones, and 755 tons linseed, were exported to the United States. Total tonnage, 10,854 tons wheat, 1,689 tons maize, 3,816 tons flour, 649 tons hay, 277,319 bales hay, 496 cattle, 53 horses, 365 sheep and 52 mules.

—From the *Auxilio* of the municipal statistic office we take the following table of the public and private lighting in the city of Buenos Aires during 1895. The public lighting was done by means of 10,778 gas lamps consuming 4,916,754 cubic metres of gas at a cost of \$1,003,754, and 6,025 kerosene lamps, consuming 58,792 litres at a cost of \$167,337.50. In addition to these there were 36 gas lamps, 1,000 c.p., in the Plaza Mayo, costing \$23.46 per month each; 98 lamps of 2,000 c.p. in the Avenida Mayo costing \$44.36 each; 100 lamps of 1,000 c.p. at Palermo costing \$31.27 each per month, 182 lamps of 1,200 c.p. alongside the Riachuelo, costing \$22.60 each per month, and 145 lamps of 1,200 c.p. in the docks, costing \$26 per month. The private lighting was done by four gas companies, with 45,574 meters supplying 22,886,796 cubic metres of gas with a revenue of \$6,513,467. The number of subscribers to each company was as follows: Gas Primitiva 15,658, Argentina 10,736, Nueva 11,875, Belgrano 7,304. The Primitiva had besides 161 subscribers to their electric light, with 5,517 lamps of 16 c.p. —*Review*, Buenos Aires.

THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

A. J. LAMOREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, AUGUST 11th, 1896.

The principal topic of interest during the past week has been the final and definite settlement of the controversy over the island of Trindade—the British government acknowledging the rights of Brazil in the case. After the refusal of the Brazilian government to submit the dispute to arbitration, the negotiations seem to have been less actively prosecuted for a time, the British government having more important matters in hand. Finally, however, the suggestion was made that the question should be referred to the mediation of Portugal, and as this offered just the same amicable solution that would have been afforded by arbitration, the British government promptly accepted it. It must be said that although there is a distinction between mediation and arbitration, there is really very little difference, and we must therefore congratulate the Brazilian foreign minister on his withdrawal from the unusual position which he took in rejecting arbitration. His inconsistency in accepting mediation was truly patriotic and has secured the satisfactory settlement of a very troublesome dispute. Although we can not admire the spirit which seeks to prevent the use of a desert island in mid-ocean for international cable purposes, we have never doubted the claims of Brazil in regard to this island, and we take great pleasure in congratulating the government on the result of its efforts to secure an amicable recognition of those claims.

It may be that the action of the government in refusing to obey a judicial mandate, restoring the suspended Polytechnic professors to their chairs, is strictly in accord with Brazilian law. On that point, the lawyers are entitled to the field. On general principles, however, and in accordance with the spirit of republican institutions, the government is completely wrong. It is contended

that the action of the courts is an interference with the authority and independence of the executive. Of course it is. It was so designed, and it is necessary that it should be so. Otherwise the executive can act illegally without check. In the best form of government, the courts should be its strongest and most independent branch. They should have an absolute revisionary or veto power over both legislature and executive. There is no danger of dictatorship and oppressive legislation from the courts, and if they are left free and their standard of high character and professional ability is maintained, they will effectively check the aggressions and abuses of the other branches of the government. In a republic, therefore, the authority and independence of the courts should be maintained at all hazards. It is a matter of surprise to us that the President has allowed himself to be led astray in this matter. We can understand the irritation of the minister of interior over the dispute, but we certainly can not understand how the President permitted a refusal to obey a judicial mandate.

The planters who are now assembled in São Paulo to consider the needs and interests of their class, have an opportunity to inaugurate a new and much-needed departure in the industrial life of this country. Will they make good use of it? Instead of combining for mercenary and political purposes, they should organize for the development of agriculture and the general improvement of their class. Their objects should be beneficial and liberal, not selfish and restrictive. Profitable as the cultivation of coffee is, it is carried on wastefully and without scientific method. The richness of the soil gives favorable results to even the most careless cultivation, and the surprising maintenance of prices secures profits even for the most inexperienced. In a brief time, however, all this will surely be changed. The splendid profits yielded during the last three or four years have stimulated others to embark in this industry all over the world, and we are now near the time when many of these new ventures will begin to influence production. Any considerable increase in the output will inevitably depress prices, and though the Brazilian planter has a good broad margin to work upon he must expect to see his profits considerably reduced. The true policy, then, is for him to reduce the costs of production. There are a score of questions connected with cultivation which the Brazilian planter rarely, if ever, considers. He leaves his coffee trees to the care of nature and unskilled labor, and he takes what a beneficent climate and fertile soil yield. If now he can augment the production by pruning and the use of fertilizers, why not do it? And if he can do away with some of the intermediaries who are living upon his industry, why not economize in that direction? It is perhaps impossible to obtain labor more cheaply than that which he is now employing, but it is not impossible that this labor can be made more effective. If the planters will discuss these questions we are confident that good results will surely follow, but if they meet only to discuss methods of shifting their taxes upon the foreign consumer, and measures for introducing Chinese contract labor at the expense of the public, nothing but harm will result. We do not understand that the rich coffee planter is any more entitled to assistance from the public treasury than is the poor shoemaker, and it is time that he should also understand the same thing.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES

JULY 31.—Senate.—The senate voted the resolution offered by the committee on commerce to propose to the chamber of deputies the appointment of a joint committee to recommend measures for improving the critical situation of the sugar industry of the country. Senator Ramiro Barcellos presented a petition from the merchants' exchange at Porto Alegre in regard to losses caused by delays in the custom-house. **Chamber of Deputies.**—The chamber passed the bill for reorganizing the tribunal of accounts. The clause giving the tribunal the faculty of previous examination of accounts of expenses passed by a vote of 73 to 63. Deputy Cincinato Braga spoke in favor of the protocol on the Italian claims.

JULY 31.—Senate.—After speeches from Senators Thomaz DeFaria and Coelho Campos the bill fixing the day for holding the general congressional elections was voted in 2nd discussion. The deficiency appropriation of 186,467,860 was also voted in 2nd discussion. Senator Moraes Barros opposed the bill granting a subsidy to a line of steamers between Aracaju and Porto Alegre, touching at intermediate ports. He considers this bill an indirect confession that the national merchant

marine is not prepared to meet the demands of the carrying trade along the coast. Senator Coelho Campos spoke in favor of the bill, which was put to the vote with the result that 16 senators voted in its favor and the same number against it. **Chamber of Deputies.**—Deputy Timotheo da Costa moved to ask for information in regard to exemptions from the payment of import duties. Deputy Glycerio introduced a bill fixing the pay of the members of the next congress. According to this bill members of both houses will continue to receive \$75 per diem, but only the members present at the sittings of congress and those showing just cause for their absence will receive pay. Deputy Nilo Peanha spoke against the protocol for the Italian claims. When this deputy had concluded his speech, the chair inquired, amid much merriment, whether some deputy did not wish to speak in favor of the protocol, since we had asked for the floor in order to speak against it. Deputy Augustino Montenegro responded to the appeal and spoke in favor of the protocol.

AUG. 1.—Senate.—Barão do Lathario and Senator Alencar Barreto discussed the bill on the removal of the navy yard. In the name of the committee on finance Senator Otacilio introduced a bill for taking over the issue of the Banco da Republica and transferring to the government the deposits of the banks in the treasury. The senate in 1st discussion the bill for granting a subsidy to a line of steamers between Aracaju and Porto Alegre, touching at intermediate ports, and in 3rd discussion the deficiency appropriation of 186,467,860. **Chamber of Deputies.**—The chair informed the house of the request of the senate for the appointment of members of a joint committee for reporting on the state of the cattle and sugar industries. Deputy Endas Martins introduced a bill for regulating the mode of certifying to the signature of consular officers. Deputy Jose Carlos made some remarks on the budget. Deputy Gonçalves Ramos introduced a bill on the care of lunatics and moved for the appointment of a special committee of five to report thereon.

AUG. 3.—Senate.—Barão do Lathario made a vigorous attack on Lient Filoteo Torres, who, he said, had by illegal and criminal means taken possession of the state government of Amazonas. The bill for the removal of the navy-yard was voted in 3rd discussion. The bill from the chamber of deputies on banks of issue was put to the vote and rejected. **Chamber of Deputies.**—Deputy Parnalino Montenegro presented a petition from manufacturers and merchants against the tobacco tax. Deputy Gaspar Drammond said that a salutary change had occurred in the political atmosphere of Pernambuco and he moved that the chamber should congratulate the governor of that state on the maintenance of public order and assure him that his continuance in office would be a service rendered to the country. Deputy Glycerio opposed the motion, which he declared unjust to Governor Barbosa Lima. The motion was rejected by a vote of 108 to 13. Deputy Eneas Gellor moved to instruct the committee on the constitution to report a bill on divorce. There were appointed five members to form part of the joint committee for reporting on the critical situation of the cattle, sugar and other industries. On motion of Deputy Gonçalves Ramos a committee of five was appointed to report on the Inancy bill. Deputy Medeiros e Albuquerque in a speech on the Italian claims made a violent attack on Minister Carlos de Carvalho and Judge Aureliano Campos. His criticism on the former was especially severe. He described the minister as suffering from inordinate vanity and from a morbid restlessness and longing for notoriety. In regard to the minister's alleged threat that he would make important disclosures showing the pilferings, cowardice and insubordination of Marshal Floriano Peixoto, he denied him to do this at a public sitting of congress in the presence of the army. Deputy Glycerio spoke in favor of the protocol and asked congress to reflect seriously on its responsibility for the consequences which would result from its action in this matter. Deputy Matta Machado said that the radicals, represented by Deputy Nilo Peanha, had while their protest against the protocol, been reasserting the calm, moderate, and conservative part of the chamber, joined in that protest and expressed the hope that congress, for the sake of the republic, would preserve unshaken the honor of the nation, which had never been tarnished in the time of the monarchy.

AUG. 4.—Senate.—The senate voted with amendments the bill from the chamber of deputies fixing the day for holding the general congressional elections. **Chamber of Deputies.**—After speeches from Deputies Ordino Alvares, Thomaz Cavalcanti, Ribeiro de Alencar and José Carlos on various subjects, the debate on the Italian claims was resumed and Deputy Endas Martins, from Pará, made a speech that lasted four hours. Allusion was again made in this debate to the alleged threat of the minister of foreign affairs to make disclosures highly discreditable to the government of Marshal Floriano Peixoto.

AUG. 5.—Senate.—The senate discussed the bill for taking over the issue of the Banco da Republica and voted a motion congratulating the government on the solution of the Trinidade question and thanking the government of Portugal for its friendly mediation in the matter. **Chamber of Deputies.**—The chamber voted a motion congratulating the people of Brazil on the recovery of the island of Trinidade. Deputy Martins Junior spoke against the Italian claims. He said that, if there are documents disgraceful to the government of Marshal Floriano Peixoto, they should be exhibited to congress and not to a foreign court of arbitration. He concluded his speech amid loud cheers, and Deputy Zama arose and contradicted a report, published in a São Paulo paper, stating that he had agreed to vote for the ratification of the protocol. He was capable of doing such a thing, he said, he would resign his seat in congress, for he would consider himself unworthy of being the representative of the people of Bahia. Violent protests were made there ensued a scene of indescribable confusion, resulting in the suspension of the sitting.

AUG. 6.—Senate.—Senator Antonio Baena and others introduced a bill for erecting a light-house on the island of Trinidade. There was some discussion of the proposed settlement of accounts be-

tween the general government and those of the states, and Senators Ramiro Barcellos and Rosa e Silva discussed the bill for taking over the issue of the Banco da Republica. **Chamber of Deputies.**—Deputy Glycerio, in answer to some remarks from Deputy Thomaz Cavalcanti, defended the government for having accepted the mediation of Portugal in the Trinidade question. Deputy Belisario de Souza spoke in favor of the protocol on the Italian claims and Deputies Sirzelelli and Pedro Mayary against it.

AUG. 7.—Senate.—Senator Corlho Rodrigues introduced a bill on pensions. Barão do Lathario, in a speech on the budget of the department of foreign affairs, criticized the work of the Brazilian and Bolivian honorary missions. Senator Justin Clement moved to ask for the opinion of the minister of foreign affairs on the subject. The chair refused to admit this motion, and the senate, on motion of the senator from Pará, postponed the debate for 18 hours. **Chamber of Deputies.**—Deputy Antonio de Siqueira presented a protest from the national party (jacobins) against the protocol on the Italian claims. Deputy Medeiros e Albuquerque presented a similar protest voted at a meeting held on that day. In doing so he alluded to the large police force stationed at the chamber and said that he knew that certain persons intended to disturb the proceedings of congress. He solemnly declared, in his own name and in that of his friends who united with him in opposing the protocol, that they disclaimed bringing in the slightest degree responsible for the intended disturbance. Deputy Glycerio said that, whatever might be the decision of congress, its will should be respected. The bill ratifying the protocol was passed by a vote of 97 to 64. Several private bills were then discussed and the chamber adjourned.

AUG. 8.—Senate.—Senators Otacilio and Leopoldo de Iguibos discussed the bill for taking over the issue of the Banco da Republica. The latter said that the expectation of this measure is now universally acknowledged. **Chamber of Deputies.**—Deputies Nilo Peanha and Medeiros e Albuquerque made some remarks in regard to the meeting held on the previous day for protesting against the protocol on the Italian claims. On motion of the latter it was resolved to publish in the *Diário do Congresso* the petition signed at that meeting. Deputy Sirzelelli introduced a bill empowering the government to expel foreigners from Brazil. Deputy Medeiros e Albuquerque moved to ask the government for information in regard to the claim of Caminha & Co.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—Carlos Gomes' health is said to be worse again.

—On the 5th inst. the S. Paulo legislature adjourned to Oct. 16.

—The prisoners in cell No. 7 of the S. Paulo jail made an unsuccessful attempt to escape on the 4th inst.

—On the 5th inst. the cruiser *Benjamin Constant* left the port of Pará bound for the coast of Africa, whence she will return to Pernambuco.

—The state judiciary in São Paulo is to be reorganized. If this is designed to bring the courts more under political control, it will be a serious mistake.

—In S. Paulo on the 9th inst. the police dispersed a crowd of jacobins who were parading the streets and making disorderly demonstrations against the Italian claims.

—There were 507 deaths in Araraquara, São Paulo during the first half of the current year, against 456 in the preceding half year. The deaths from yellow fever in the second half of 1865 numbered 215.

—The *Paiz* publishes a telegram stating that the solution of the Trinidade question excited very little enthusiasm in Pará. The people of that state are probably reserving their enthusiasm for the settlement of the Amazon question.

—Now that the British government has restored Trinidade to Brazil, will the proprietor of the "Serra Paulista" relent and give the São Paulo Englishmen a bath? It has been a long time since he shut his door against them.

—The present moment seems to be unpropitious for newspapers. The *Município* of São Paulo suspended some weeks ago, and now the *Gazeta da Tarde* of Santos and *Repórter* of São Paulo have followed suit. The latter expects to resume.

—There seems to have been another row on the Uruguaiana frontier. According to telegrams from Livramento the Uruguaiana police pursued a boy across the frontier into Rio Grande. The boy killed one of his pursuers. The boy's brother, João de Barros, then attacked the police and made them surrender.

—The São Paulo "tribunal of justice" has granted a writ of *habeas corpus* in favor of Sr. Terra Pereira, accused of assassinating D. Narcisca de Carvalho. Is it not a mistake to release accused murderers in this manner? Would it not be better, even for the accused, to have the accusation put to trial?

—In São Paulo, Sr. Antonio Terra Pereira has been denounced and arrested for the assassination of D. Narcisca de Carvalho. He says the man who shot him was a police subaltern, but six witnesses have sworn to his culpability, a case with his first name was found near the body and it is shown that the two had quarreled, the lady prosecuting Sr. Pereira for some fraud.

—On the 2nd inst. a man named Silva discharged a gun in a passenger coach of the Mogiana line near Uberaba, nearly killing the editor of the *Uberaba Gazetinha* and slightly wounding another man. Arrested he first pretended to be drunk and then insisted that the gun was discharged by accident. A telegram was sent to Franco for the justice delegado to come for the prisoner to the station, but he failed to appear. Such passengers ought to be carried in handcuffs.

—A few days since the postal authorities at Uberaba, Minas Geraes, deposited 59 bags of mail in Goyaz, which had been deposited in that city for a long time for lack of transport. The postmaster at Goyaz will be quite overcome when this mail arrives, and it may be presumed that he will require at least 60 days for its distribution.

—The police authorities in São Paulo have been making a few laws on their own account against the women of immoral life. In summer, their window blinds must be closed at 7 p. m. and in winter at 6 p. m., so that their faces may not look into the streets. They must not admit into their houses amusements, school-boys, or military men in uniform. At theatres, etc., they must conduct themselves properly and must not enter into conversation with men in the corridors, lodges, or any place where they can be seen. An infraction of these regulations will subject them to imprisonment from one to six months. Aside from the application of these regulations, it is right and legal to permit the police authorities to make laws involving penalties of fine and imprisonment? And if it is, why not permit also that police officials shall not exist to receive "hush-money" from these same women?

RIO GRANDE DO SUL

Col. Carlos Telles arrived in this city on the 3rd inst. and reported at the office of the adjutant-general of the army. He was there informed that a cabinet meeting would be held for the purpose of deciding whether he should be placed under arrest. His friends at large have requested the war department to restore him to the command of the garrison of that place.

At Porto Alegre Gen. Carlos Eugenio, the new commander of the military district, and Julio de Castilhos have exchanged visits.

A Pelotas telegram states that Gen. Tavares, will be present at the federalist convention to be held at Porto Alegre on the 23rd inst.

Col. Joaquim Pedro Salgado, a prominent federalist leader, has arrived in this city, and Count eilar Maciel is expected to arrive in a few days.

The full text of Col. Thomaz Flores' orders in relation to Col. Carlos Telles has been published. From these it appears that on the 14th of July the latter addressed two offensive communications to his superior officer, that, having verbally reported himself ill, he disobeyed the order of that officer to make the report in writing, that on the 17th, while under arrest on parole and consequently temporarily deprived of his command, he found the 3rd battalion for parole in disobedience to orders, that on the 18th he again disobeyed his superior's orders, refusing to take passage on the train for Rio Grande, that on the 20th he repeated this act of disobedience and insubordination and resumed without authorization the command of the garrison of Bagé and that he continued to disobey until the 22nd the orders suspending him from his command, placing him under arrest and subjecting him to court-martial inquiry.

A telegram of the 7th inst. from Pelotas states that moss would be sent there yesterday for the federalist hero Gunderico Sarinva.

RAILROAD NOTES

—The São Paulo state government is celebrating a contract with the Noroeste company for a branch line from Leópolis to Itahara.

—The Villa Isabel company has asked for an extension of its concession and is prepared to substitute electricity for animal traction on its lines.

—The municipal chamber of Santos has granted to Luiz José de Mattos a 50-year's charter for a tramway from Rua Rangel Pestana to Nova Cima.

—The board of directors of the Chah de Engenharia took a vote on the 8th inst. on the alienation of the state railways, when it was found that they were evenly divided on the question.

—The rails on the Oeste de Minas line have reached Cana Verde, 15 kilometers from Campo Belho. It is expected that the line will be finished in the last mentioned place some time next month.

—There was a collision of two freight trains, a Mogiana, on the Parati line, on the 2nd inst., causing considerable prejudice to some of the wagons. The damage was estimated at about 15,000,000.

—The *Jornal do Commercio* says that the special commission appointed to investigate the affairs of the Central railway has reported that delegations exist to an aggregate of 6,500,000, including the defalcation of the ex-treasurer. And, strangely enough, no one seems to be held responsible for it!

—The Viçosa Paulista train company of S. Paulo has violated the municipal council of that city for relief from the many exactions and taxes imposed upon the company, and for permission to increase fares by 50 %. Figures are given to show the greatly increased cost of wages and forage for animals. The company is now employing about 1,000 men, 2,000 mules and is operating 95 kilometers of lines.

—The traffic receipts of the Sorocabana lines for the year ending July 31 amounted to 6,059,060,000, and the amount paid to the company on account of guarantee of interest was 221,804,810, making a total of 6,280,864,810. The company estimates the receipts for next year at nearly 9,000,000 and those for the year 1900 at 24,000,000. The operating expenses for the year ending on the 31st ult. were 3,024,410,810. The total length of the railway and its various branches, at that date, was 1,000 kilometers.

LOCAL NOTES

—The President has been very much congratulated on the favorable solution of the Trinidade question.

—The weather last week was extraordinarily hot for this season of the year and there were several fatal cases of yellow fever.

—Now that the main arsenal is to be removed from this city, why not remove the war arsenal and the various military barracks also?

August 6- The London & River Plate Bank posted 9 3/4% during the morning, and the others with 9 1/2% in their tables were also furnishing bids at this rate. The market was less active and hardly so firm as yesterday. And on the street there were rumors of some dis-agreement between a native and a foreign bank as to "approved bills," tendered the latter by the former. In the course of the day two of the foreign banks were said to have furnished bills of 9 1/4%, when business was done in other than bank sterling at 9 3/4, but there was always money at 9 1/4%, and the

<i>Trinoides</i>	Carlin	..
<i>Ptychocheilus Malin</i>	Kampong	2 Jun
<i>Pompeius Cuv.</i>	Leuth	..
<i>P. p. n. n.</i>	Sa-guenay River	..

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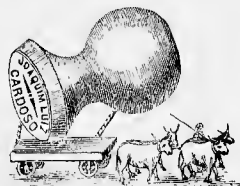
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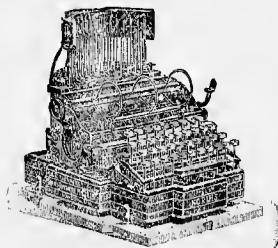
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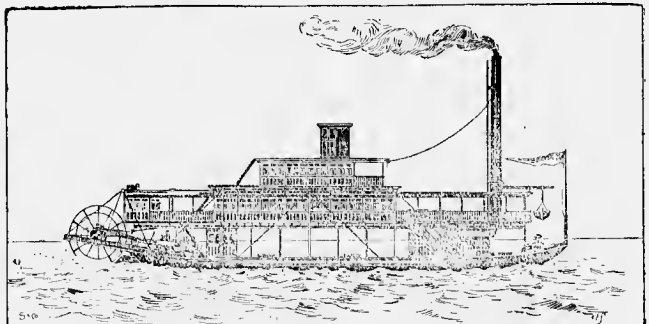
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